

Serial No. 10/705,554  
60130-1915;02MRA0419

REMARKS

Claims 11-18 and 20 remain pending in the application including independent claim 11.

Claims 1-10 and 19 have been cancelled.

Claims 1, 2, 6, 8, and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Cregeur (US 6541929). Claims 3-5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cregeur in view of Ikeda (JP 10-102905). Claim 7 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cregeur in view of Ikeda (JP 10-102905) and further in view of Itoh (US 4870333). Claim 10 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cregeur in view of Kurihara et al. (US 4536687). These rejections are moot in light of the amendments set forth above.

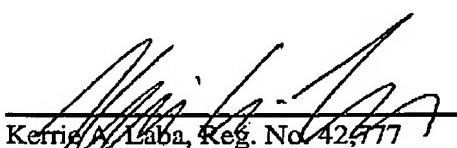
The examiner has indicated that claims 11-20 are allowed, however, applicant assumes that the examiner also intended to reject claim 19, a method claim depending from claim 1, along with the other pending method claims. Thus, applicant has cancelled claim 19. Further, applicant has amended claim 20 (a system claim) to correct the dependency. Thus, claims 10-18 and 20 should now be in condition for allowance.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Serial No. 10/705,554  
60130-1915;02MRA0419

Applicant believes that no additional fees are necessary, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482 in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

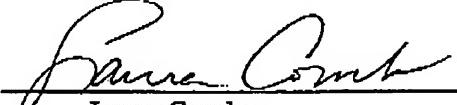
Respectfully submitted,

  
Kerrie A. Laba, Reg. No. 42,977  
Carlson, Gaskey & Olds  
400 W. Maple Road, Ste. 350  
Birmingham, MI 48009  
(248) 988-8360

Dated: February 6, 2006

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, fax number (571) 273-8300, on February, 2006.

  
Laura Combs